

- Sub  
F<sub>1</sub>
- c) quantifying said analyte wherein quantifying comprises using mass spectrometric analysis to resolve distinct signals for said analyte and said IRS to determine the ratio of the analyte signal to the IRS signal.
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Sub  
F<sub>1</sub>

Claim 33 A method according to claim 31, in which said quantifying step further comprises working curve analysis.

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Claim 40 A method according to claim 33, in which said working curve analysis comprises substeps of:

- Sub  
F<sub>1</sub>
- a) making a plurality of standard preparations, each containing a known but differing concentration of the analyte and each containing a known concentration of IRS;
- b) obtaining respective mass spectra of each of the plurality of standard preparations;
- c) normalizing each of the mass spectra from the plurality of standard preparations by dividing each mass spectrum by the IRS signal within the mass spectrum;
- d) creating a working curve by equating the normalized analyte signals to the analyte concentration of the plurality of standard preparations;
- e) obtaining a mass spectrum for the IRS-containing specimen;
- f) normalizing the mass spectrum of the IRS-containing specimen by dividing by the IRS signal within the mass spectrum; and
- g) quantifying the concentration of the analyte in the specimen using the working curve.
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